



the Post



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December 1, 2006

NEWSNOTES

Town Hall sessions set at Timmermann

The Plans, Analysis and Integration Office is seeking suggestions for topics of interest to the workforce and tenant senior leaders for the December Town Hall meetings. Specific topic suggestions may be e-mailed to andre.mixon@dix.army.mil.

The Tenant Town Hall Meeting is set for Dec. 4 at 2 p.m. in the Command Conference Room; the Installation Town Hall is Dec. 5 at 3 p.m. in Timmermann Center. Employees and residents of Fort Dix are invited to attend.

Special Forces looking for officer volunteers

The U.S. Army Special Forces are currently seeking male officer volunteers from Year Group '04. Officer packets will be accepted until Feb. 15, 2007, but early submission is highly recommended.

For more information, visit <http://www.bragg.army.mil/special-forces/>

Doyle Cemetery in need of volunteers

Doyle Cemetery is enlisting the support of community volunteers, Scouting groups, veteran service organizations, youth groups and other interested individuals for outreach and education. Interested parties should call retired Marine Corps 1st Sgt. Iven C. Dumas, assistant superintendent, at 758-7250, extension 17, or send e-mail to Iven.Dumas@njdma.va.state.nj.us.

Combined Federal Campaign tops goal

The 2006 Combined Federal Campaign on Fort Dix has topped its \$30,000 goal with donations of \$30,165, but is still actively seeking donations from the community.

The annual campaign is part of a national effort that allows donors to select charitable organizations to support during a once-a-year drive on post, and ends Dec. 6 with a closing ceremony at 9 a.m. at Club Dix.

For more information on the campaign or to donate, call Rod Martell at 562-2186.

WEATHER

Weather Hotline

Looking for information on weather delays and closings on Fort Dix? Call 562-4065, tune in to WDIX or log on to www.dix.army.mil after 6 a.m. daily

FRIDAY -- Showers and possible thunderstorms, high of 66 and overnight low of 41.

SATURDAY -- Mostly sunny, with a high near 50; cold front moving through will drop overnight lows to 30 or lower.

SUNDAY -- Partly cloudy, high of 47, chance of snow or rain with overnight low near 30 degrees.

MONDAY -- Chance of snow or rain, mostly cloudy with a high of 43 and overnight low of 28 degrees.

TUESDAY -- Mostly sunny, high of 42, continued cold with overnight low of 30 degrees.

WEDNESDAY -- Continued cold, slight chance of showers, high of 39 and overnight low of 32 degrees.



David Moore

AMERICAN FANS -- Clementon residents greet Soldiers from Fort Dix Thanksgiving Day at Baron's Steakhouse as they arrived for a holiday celebration sponsored by Erik Spevak, Honorary Commander and supporter of the post.

South Jersey rolls out support

David Moore
Public Affairs Staff

More than 500 residents of South Jersey unfurled their American flags to greet nearly 300 Soldiers attending Thanksgiving Dinner at Baron's Steakhouse in Clementon.

Residents began forming up at least two hours before the arrival of the troops, who are training at Fort Dix to mobilize for the Global War on Terrorism.

As the Soldiers arrived by buses, a

wide aisle of residents waving flags and holding banners led them to the restaurant. But as each bus unloaded, the aisle got narrower as residents reached for the Soldiers to shake hands and give them hugs and "be safe" wishes. Children pushed through the line in an effort to try and high-five as many Soldiers as possible.

The event brought tears to the eyes of the onlookers and Soldiers alike.

"I'm so choked up right now, I can't even talk about this event," 1st Sgt. Charles Gardner, 129th Field Artillery,

Missouri Army National Guard, said of the civilian turnout.

The 182nd Field Artillery, Michigan Army National Guard, was the other unit in attendance at the Third Annual Thanksgiving Festival sponsored by Erik Spevak, a Haddonfield attorney, honorary Fort Dix commander, and member of the Jewish War Veterans Post 126, Cherry Hill.

"While you may not be at home with your families, we want you to feel at home today with your South Jersey family," Spevak said to the Soldiers

waiting for the traditional Thanksgiving feast fixings.

John Runyan, a Philadelphia Eagles tackle, and former Eagle Garry Cobb ran a trivia game with the theme of Missouri v. Michigan college football game history. They also were on hand to provide the Soldiers with their autographs.

In addition to the residents who provided the warm welcome for the Soldiers entering the restaurant, there were nearly 60 civilian volunteers who helped organize and serve the meal.

Terrorists oppose Iraqi people

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28, 2006 -- Terrorists and extremists in Iraq are working to destabilize the country to further their own goals, a coalition spokesman in Iraq said at a news conference today.

This goal drives the increasingly horrific attacks on civilians and fuels waves of retaliatory killings in and around Baghdad, Army Maj. Gen.

William Caldwell said, adding that all this is counter to the will of the Iraqi people.

"Al Qaeda, foreign terrorists and extremists do not want to let the Iraqis decide their own future," Caldwell said.

"Through two elections and a constitutional referendum, the Iraqi people have demonstrated they want to be a part of this political process and they want to have a representative government."

Saddam Hussein's lengthy and dominating rule crippled the oil-rich nation

of Iraq, economically and functionally.

Making the transition from dictatorship to democracy would be tough even without terrorist efforts to derail the process, Caldwell said, but he predicted the will of the Iraqi people will prevail.

"Iraqis are creating a country that will replace the rule of the gun with the rule of the law," Caldwell said. "And they will put criminals and killers out of business."

Mortar and car bomb attacks Nov. 23 that killed more than 180 innocent Iraqis and wounded 245 in Sadr City, a

predominantly Shiite neighborhood on the east side of Baghdad, reflect the al Qaeda in Iraq strategy in the nation, the general said.

"It was indisputably a terrible crime against the Iraqi people," Caldwell said. "The retaliatory attacks we have seen are also."

Terrorists seek to control the Sunni population in the country, Caldwell explained, and they are looking to dominate Baghdad, the military and political center of gravity in Iraq. Al Qaeda (continued on page 3)

Drinking and driving a one-way street to guilt, shame, prison

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

Commentary

She's resting now. No more worries -- no more concerns -- no more struggles. Her day planner has been freed up. She doesn't have to make that decision of what Christmas party she would be going to this coming weekend. She won't have to disappoint anybody by not showing up at one of them.

Another slot just opened up at Syracuse where she was planning on attending college next year. She won't be going after all.

Wait -- that shopping trip with her little sister Thursday night will be cancelled. That will surely upset her.

So many hard decisions that she was facing this year will now go unmade. She can't be concerned with that now.

How lonely and sad it will be for her mother, father and sister this year as they gather around the Christmas tree. The jubilant bantering and joyous singing won't fill the house as the Christmas meal is prepared. It will be too much like the meal served there after her funeral

services and burial.

She's resting now, which is the only peace her family and friends will know this year.

The cold, hard steel of the handcuffs are harsh and tight against the flesh of my wrist. The condescending looks and accusing stares bore a hole through my body and mind. What happened?

The night started out so well. The party was great and I finally got Anne's number. The guys were a riot as usual, and I even won a door prize.

But that all seems so far away now.

What's that? What does that police officer have in his hand? A bottle? Mine? Oh, yeah, I took that one to go. Oh, God, they're saying the driver of the car I hit just died.

What's going to happen to me now? What will the first sergeant say? What about my father and mother? Oh no, my wife and kids -- I won't be home to see them tonight -- not for Christmas either.

What have I done?

Each year, thousands of people across the United States lose their lives due to drunk drivers. Some of them are the drivers themselves. Others are mere innocents who happened to be in the

(continued on page 4)



Post Tree Lighting today

The Fort Dix Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held at Wurman Hall today at 4:30 p.m., rain or shine. The ceremony will include a Lighted Candle Tribute to the military, a bike raffle, lighting of the post Christmas Tree and a visit from Santa Claus. Refreshments will be served starting at 4 p.m., and all are invited to attend.

Army-Navy gun for gridiron glory

Steve Snyder
Public Affairs Staff

Certain sports rivalries assume the status of legends over the years, both for the quality of competition reached between opposing forces and the length of time opponents have been going at it. One thinks of Ali vs. Frazier within roped rings. Bill Russell's Celtics going up against Wilt Chamberlain's Warriors on the hardwood, the Dallas Cowboys against the Eagles or the old Brooklyn Dodgers slugging it out with the New York Yankees (with the Boston Red Sox today, probably, replacing the venerable nine from Ebbetts Field as New York's major nemesis).

College football has had its share of rivalries but surely none have been more hallowed than Army vs. Navy, who go into their 107th battle in Philadelphia tomorrow.

When I was growing up in the mid-1950s in the hills of Pennsylvania, Army and Navy were still most often national powers. I remember Army going unbeaten in 1958 (a 14-1 tie marring an otherwise perfect record) and swamping Navy led by the likes of All-American

halfback Pete Dawkins, Bob Anderson at the other half, and "lonely end" Bill Carpenter going deep to keep secondaries honest.

Times change, though. As major college football teams became thinly-disguised training grounds for the National Football League, the Army, Navy and Air Force were eventually relegated to secondary status among once major powers. High academic standards, height and weight limits, and long military commitments did not bode well toward recruiting top grid talent into any of the service academies.

Still, Army and Navy plugged away, maintaining interest in their annual classic and even racking up some pretty good years against other top notch competition.

Fort Dix's training cadre took our basic trainees in 1988 up to West Point to see some impressive drilling by the cadets and two witness Army whipping Vanderbilt on the Black Knights' march to a winning season.

In the past couple of seasons even the most casual of fans have noticed renewed excitement at some service contests. After all, in a society that reeks of self indulgence who's in better shape, more disciplined or even more enthusiastic than some of our future military men gracing the playing fields



www.trumanlibrary.org

FRIENDLY RIVALS -- President Harry S. Truman greets captains from Army and Navy football teams prior to their 1950 clash in Philadelphia won by Navy eleven, 14-2. This year's game pits the 3-8 Black Knights against the 8-3 Midshipmen Saturday in Philadelphia. It'll be the 107th time the service rivals have met with Navy leading in the series, 50-49-7.

ment at some service contests. After all, in a society that reeks of self indulgence who's in better shape, more disciplined or even more enthusiastic than some of our future military men gracing the playing fields



www.playitusa.com

SUPERSTAR -- Roger Staubach led Navy past Army in both 1962 and 63, won the Heisman Trophy in 63, served six years in the Navy including a tour in Vietnam before returning at 26 to win three Superbowls for the Dallas Cowboys, was named on six Pro Bowl teams and entered the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1985.



www.ncaa.com

WEST POINT LEGEND -- Star Army halfback Pete Dawkins is carried off the field in Philadelphia after leading the unbeaten Black Knights to a 22-6 victory over Navy in the 1958 battle. Dawkins won the Heisman Trophy that season and went on to win two Bronze Stars for Valor in Vietnam.

Salivating Dixans pie-eyed for Christmas

Pies for all seasons

Picking a favorite pie just isn't possible. Different holidays and times of year call for different flavors.

This time of year, with Thanksgiving and Christmas, all flavors of pie are near the top of the list, but pumpkin pie rules the roost. There's just something about this time of year and pumpkin pie.

Spring brings about more than warm weather. Near Easter, pie preference changes slightly and blueberry is the flavor of choice.

Summer and the Fourth of July call for cherry pie. Some might criticize this opinion, saying apple pie is the obvious choice, but they are wrong. Cherry is the flavor for summer, period.

So where does apple pie fit into the mix? Apple pie is the "every day, every season" flavor. Nothing beats apple pie, and it will do in any situation, even if it's the season for pumpkin pie.

There are as many recipes for pie as there are reasons for eating it. So what is the best recipe for pie? Just call mom!

Ed Mingin, PAO

Sonnet 314

Let truth plainly speak how beloved thou art,

Though your sapor be more numerous than stars.

And as no heav'n's bodies holds my total heart

I know not which of your



www.wind-borne.com

ASSEMBLY LINE -- Pies made by companies come off assembly lines making them hard to match home-made varieties.

tastes most favor'd are.

Sweet apple with her rosiest fruits of fall.

My abiding affections she doth holds.

But Key Lime leaves no gustatory pleasure small.

When her tart, creamy goodness is served cold.

Your inspired dreams hold aloft the mighty sky.

Like Atlas they lift what is heaven sent

Gold'n crusts may not outshine the firmament

But loved, of you I am scarce ambivalent

When hunger's lust doth pierce your yielding crust
All sublime anticipations are lost.

Jennifer McCarthy, PAO

Creme de la creme

When the holiday season is here, how do you celebrate?

Do you go out with friends and family? How about staying at home or going to someone's pad? What do you party with?

What's your dinner, beverage, or dessert of choice?

Let's just skip the entrees and go straight to the dessert. For the all important way to cap an evening, one must not take this choice lightly. May I suggest taking a trip, perhaps a trip to Boston?

No? Not literally. Although that's not such a bad idea, either. No, I'm talking a bit cheaper like in the form of a pie, a



www.superchefblog.com

CHEF'S DELIGHT -- For some, pie-making is more fun than eating pie. Others profoundly disagree.

Boston Creme pie.

Boston Creme pie was invented by Monsieur Sanzian in the mid-1800s, and is made of two layers of sponge cake with vanilla custard on the inside and chocolate glaze on the outside for a symphony of flavors to satisfy all taste buds.

Chow down! You won't be disappointed.

Happy holidays.

Ryan Morton, PAO

Grandma knew best

What is my favorite pie?

Being one who enjoys a good pie now and then, and having a stomach that is not a discriminating of pies, this truly raised within me a quandary.

Not wanting to jump to a quick solution to the question, took time to ponder the situation.

What type of pie do I really enjoy above all others?

There is mince meat pie, apple pie, coconut cream pie, banana pudding pie, kiwi lime pie, Boston cream pie, pumpkin pie, cherry pie, blueberry pie, sweet potato pie, pecan pie, wild berry pie, Dutch apple pie, apricot pie, peach pie...

Too many to think of! But which one do I really like the most? Ahhhhh...

I've got it!

My favorite pie takes me back to when I was a little boy, a long, long time ago. Every time we would drive in the family car up to my great-grandpar-

ents' house, the delectable aroma would be wafting its way down the driveway to meet us.

Oh, the wonderful sweetness and the equally yummy sourness of the rhubarb mixed in a scrumptious sweet sauce engulfed by the most tender and flaky crust. Top that with a good vanilla ice cream and you had the best pie ever.

Great-Grandma's Strawberry Rhubarb pie! Now there's a pie for you!

Wayne Cook, PAO

Mathematical morsel

My favorite type of pi is the one that represents the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. In fact, this is the only type of pi I've ever tried.

The recipe for pi is very old, dating back to the ancient Egyptians and Babylonians. The key ingredient in pi is the circle, which should be perfectly round if it is to be used. Otherwise, our pi won't come out right.

Next, the circle's circumference should be measured, followed by its diameter. These measurements MUST be exact; eyeballing it just won't do.

The final and most important step is to divide the circumference by the diameter, resulting in the number 3.14159. If this number is not achieved, check your ingredients and try again.

Pi should then be allowed to sit until its mathematical concepts are ready for consumption.

Please note: the Diophantine Approximation of pi - better known as 22/7 - can be used in a pinch, but don't expect equal results.

Shawn Morris, PAO



fafblog.blogspot.com

APPLE OF YOUR EYE -- Apple pie is a traditional favorite whose taste may be enhanced by a la mode (ice cream) on top.

Dixan on the street

compiled by Steve Snyder

According to many press reports, the Pentagon's review of what to do in Iraq has boiled down to three basic options: "Go Big," "Go Long" or "Go Home."

"Go Big" involves sending in more troops; "Go Long" would shrink the force but stay longer to train Iraqis, etc., and "Go Home" means pulling out everything, right now.

We asked Dixans on the street: "Which option is the best: Go Big, Go Long or Go Home?"

Master Sgt. Barbara Wilson
(aka Bookard)
Human Resources Military

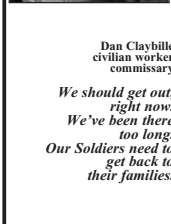


"Go long. You won't have as many troops over there or for as long a time if you rotate (fewer troops) less frequently."



Senior Airman Carlos Pello
514th LRF
McGuire AFB

"We can't just leave the situation as is but still need to train them (Iraqis). But we can't baby-sit them forever. We have to ween them off dependence on us, maybe leave some troops behind to maintain support."



Dan Claybille
civilian worker
commissary

We should get out, right now. We've been there too long. Our Soldiers need to get back to their families.



Jackie Holliday
Marketing manager, MWR
Fort Dix

Go long. I'd really like to see us leave there sooner but since that's not going to happen I'd like to see fewer Soldiers there and more reasonable rotation of troops.



Master Sgt. Michael Adams
1st Brigade, 17th Division

"We still need to leave some trained Soldiers back there. They must be strong before we go."



the Post

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South Jersey rolls —

Spc. Marcel Alvarado of the 182nd Field Artillery, Michigan Army National Guard, right, is one of the first Soldiers served during the Third Annual Thanksgiving Festival held at Baron's Steakhouse Restaurant in Clementon.



photos by David Moore

The Third Annual Thanksgiving Festival held at Baron's Steakhouse Restaurant in Clementon was sponsored by Eric Spevak, an honorary Fort Dix commander and member of the South Jersey Jewish War Veterans. Nearly 500 South Jersey residents welcomed the 300 Soldiers to Baron's, while 60 civilian volunteers helped organize and serve the holiday meal.



Terrorists oppose Iraqis

(continued from page 1)
kills and intimidates Sunnis who want to work with the elected, representative government. The group also seeks to weaken the Iraqi government and destroy faith in the elected representatives. The terrorists attack the representatives and work to make Iraqis fearful of dealing with their own government.

Al Qaeda's strategy also calls for attacks on Shiite civilians. The attacks in Sadr City are an example of this strategy, Caldwell said. Al Qaeda launches the attacks and counts on illegal militias to launch revenge attacks on Sunnis. This creates division along sectarian lines.

The Iraqis and coalition have made progress against al Qaeda in Iraq, Caldwell said. Since November 2004, Iraqi and coalition forces have killed or captured more than 7,000 al Qaeda in Iraq terrorists, including more than 30 senior-level terrorists who have been captured or killed since July, he said.

Between Nov. 14 and 19, Iraqi and coalition forces conducted a number of targeted raids across Iraq and captured the terrorist emirs of Ramadi, Bakuba, Qaim, Tikrit, Baiji and Baghdad, Caldwell said. The forces also captured two terrorist facilitators, a courier, an explosive expert and a financier.

"The detention of these terrorists represents a serious blow against the al Qaeda in Iraq terrorist network. Iraqi and coalition forces also are working diligently against death squads. Most sectarian attacks in the country are within 30 miles of Baghdad, and Iraqi and coalition forces continue to work against illegal militias. "In the past week, our combined forces conducted 18 operations against sectarian death squads resulting in the detainment of 78 suspected cell members," he said.

Caldwell said that polls in Iraq show the people want the government to succeed. He said Iraqis are resolved on a unified, secure and prosperous Iraq. "In polling conducted last month, 89 percent of Iraqis nationwide

agreed with this statement: 'My first loyalty is to my country rather than my sect, ethnic group or tribe.'" Caldwell said. Only 25 percent of Iraqis said the country would be better off divided along sectarian lines.

Coalition forces continue to work with Iraqi security forces to build their professionalism, Caldwell said. More than 4,000 U.S. servicemembers organized in 430 teams advise the Iraqi army, police and border guards. The teams are necessary "to sustain and develop these forces so they can evolve into a professional security institution," the general said. "They will remain in place long after we have met our goal of training and equipping 325,000 Iraqi security forces."

Police Log

United Communities Housing Information

Leasing Office- 723-4290
Maintenance Office- 724-0500
Maintenance Scheduling, Progress, and
Trash Concerns - 724-0550

Unaccompanied Military members are
NOW WELCOME.
Furnished homes ARE available.
Entitlement buy-ups are available.
Call the leasing office for details.

Holidays with United Communities!

Please make sure to decorate for the Holidays. United Communities is holding a contest for the best decorated home. The judging will take place on Monday, December 18. Judges from United Communities will view every holiday decorated home on McGuire and Fort Dix and select the best. Prizes are \$300 American Express Gift Certificate for first place; \$200 gift certificate to the PX for second place, and \$100 gift certificate to the Shopette for third place.

Please consult your resident handbook in order to identify where you may and may not place decorations.

Pictures with Santa will also be taken at the office on Monday, December 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 2838A Doolittle Drive Falcon Courts East.

Tradition, revelry reign at installation Dining-In



HONOR AND ANTICS- Singing their way out of a tricky situation at the Installation Dining-In held Nov. 30 at Club Dix, were above left to right, Capt. James Fisher, Royal Parachute Regiment, Maj. (ret) Joe Logan, Capt. Paul Mori, Royal Parachute Regiment, Lt. Col. Roger Cotton, deputy installation commander, Col. (ret) Marcel Lettre, Henry Melon-Lopez, director, Human Resources-Military and Maj. David Dean, C. Company commander. At right, Col. R. David McNeil presents guest of honor, Thomas Porcella with a token of thanks. Porcella was a paratrooper during the World War II invasion of Normandy.



GENERAL REMARKS - Brig. Gen. John A. Macdonald, Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, above, served as guest speaker at the Dining-In.

Resolved: No more impaired driving—

(continued from page 1)
wrong place at the wrong time.

According to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2005, people were in alcohol-related crashes, an average of one almost every half-hour across the nation.

These deaths constituted almost 39 percent of the 43,443 total traffic fatalities.

In New Jersey alone, 263 people succumbed to their deaths due to alcohol-related situations. Of those deaths, 180 of them were fatalities involving a driver with .08 percent or above blood alcohol content.

The public eye is focused now on the number of deaths resulting from the Global War on Terrorism. While that total is out of our control, the number of people who die in alcohol-related accidents can be controlled.

Be responsible when you drink. Don't get behind the wheel of an automobile or any other motorized vehicle.

Have a designated driver if you plan on drinking while you are out.

Remember, you quickly lose the ability to make rational decisions once you start to drink alcohol -- decide before you start how you will get home safely.

No one is Superman, and no one drives better after a few drinks. Don't let that myth be your downfall. It could cost you your career, or much more.

One of the phrases you will often hear at a funeral is that a person has been "laid to rest." It's really just a euphemism for gone - gone from the lives of the people who loved them, gone from the world where their intelligence and talent might have made a difference, gone from the sheer joy of life.

Don't drink and drive.
Make the choice to stay.

NEIGHBORHOOD

THE CORNER

Post Thrift Shop ready for holiday shopping

Visit the Fort Dix Thrift Shop for all your clothing, household and gift-giving needs! We have a great line of new tile coasters, magnets, greeting cards, and jewelry that are perfect for those last minute gifts or to begin your Christmas shopping.

• Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
• First Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
• First and Third Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Call 723-2683 for more info.

NCO Academy looking for OPFOR Soldiers

The Fort Dix NCO Academy is looking for units that want to provide OPFOR (Opposing Force) personnel for the academy's Warrior Leader Course Situational Training Exercise (STX).

The duty would be for 2 to 3 days during the course cycle each month. The academy is looking for team- to squad-size elements that would like to hone their infantry skills and provide better training for the Army's future leaders.

Soldiers should be in status such as RST, RSTLRSB, AGR or Mobilized. For information regarding the duty dates and equipment requirements, call Sgt. 1st Class Smith, Sgt. 1st Class Roach, Sgt. 1st Class Fierro, or Sgt. 1st Class Crutchfield at 562-6136.

Middle school to host holiday craft/gift show

The Helen Fort Middle School will host a Craft/Gift Show Dec. 1 from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Dix Soldier, author to hold book signing

Laura E. Johnson, an award-winning author and instructor at the Fort Dix Noncommissioned Officer Academy, will be signing copies of her book, "A Soldier Never Cries," at the Fort Dix/McGuire Main Exchange Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Job fair coming to Bordertown hotel

The Bordertown Job Fair will be held Dec. 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ramada Inn, 1083 Route 206, North Bordertown.

More than 20 local and national companies will be at the fair. Bring copies of your resume, and be sure to dress appropriately for the job you are seeking.

For more information, call the Job Fair Company at (800) 632-5532 or Rod Martell, Army Community Service, at 562-2186.

Relationship seminar coming to Chapel 5

A seminar entitled "Relationship Recon: Dealing with Divorce, Separation, Shared Parenting, Children's Behavior, Child Support" will be held Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. in Chapel 5. All are invited to attend. For child care and more information, call 562-2767.

Pemberton Township to hold Board of Ed meetings

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice is hereby given by the Pemberton Township Board of Education announces that a regular monthly board meeting will be held Dec. 14 in the high school auditorium, Arney's Mount Road, Pemberton. Executive Session starts at 6 p.m., Public Session at 7 p.m. This meeting will be opened to the public for discussion and/or formal action and any other business that may come before the board.

Christmas tree sales begin this week

Fort Dix Christmas tree sales will run until Dec. 23 at the Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center, Bldg. 6045. Hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday to Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Trees start as low as \$20, and free refreshments will be available. Call 562-6667 for info.



Donations make spirits bright



Martha Osburn-Henry
Boy Scout Troop 34

Boys are attracted to Scouting for the obvious reasons - camping, hiking, uniforms, pinewood derby races, earning badges and awards, making new friends, learning new things and having fun.

Parents want their sons to join Scouting because it is more than just a program. Scouting is a life-changing experience that helps build character, values, community and family.

Any time of the year is a good time for parents to enroll their sons in Scouting. Annual recruiting programs are conducted by Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops throughout the Burlington County Council.

The 12 traits that make up the Scouts Law reads like every parent's wish for their children - "trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent."

Along with the motto of "Be Prepared" and the Scout slogan "Do a Good Turn Daily," Scouting sets

expectations of cooperation, respect and good will - all success factors in helping build lifelong personal and family values.

These days, there is a great deal of competition for kids' time and a family's time - some good, some not so good. Take this example: What are the top 10 reasons why Scouting beats TV, hands down?

10. No wires, no remote, no batteries required
9. Scouting burns more calories
8. Scouting is socially interactive
7. Scouting doesn't have commercials
6. Scouting builds character
5. You can't build a campfire in the family room (the fireplace doesn't count)
4. Scouting builds families
3. Scouting provides positive reinforcement and creates positive change
2. Scouting has no place for violence
- And the number-one reason why scouting beats TV, hands down:
1. Scouting is the ultimate reality show!

You are invited to come to Boy Scout Troop 34's Open House Dec. 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Bldg.



photos by Wayne Cook

Sgt. Maj. Roger Chin, MRB, Master Sgt. Jeff Hood, McGuire First Sergeants Association liaison to Operation Santa Claus, Vice Bowker, president, Operation Santa Claus, Command Chief Master Sgt. Andy Kaiser, 621st Contingency Response Wing, and Technical Sgt. Thomas Pollard, 305 CRW, celebrate the season opening of the Operation Santa Claus program for Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base Nov. 30. The shelves are filling up with new and used toys for children whose families could use some help bringing Christmas cheer to the little ones on Christmas day. Interested Soldiers and Airmen should see their first sergeants to inquire further about the benefits of the program or to offer their help in raising donations.

Scouting separates leaders from loungers

3341, just off Delaware Avenue in the same row of buildings as Operation Santa Claus. Please come and stay as little or as long as you like.

Membership in Troop 34 is open to boys from 11 to 18 years of age. We meet Monday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Family and Friends are welcome to attend the Open House. There will be fun, food and prizes. The First 10 scouts that join will get free registration. Yearly registration is regularly \$10.

Parental involvement is one of the strengths of Scouting that makes it unique. Parents appreciate and enjoy having the ability to become involved at different times and levels in their child's scouting career. Siblings and extended family members can also benefit by participating in family-based activities and programs, not to mention the positive effect a Scout can have as a role model, especially to younger family members.

Call 638-0672 or stop by the Scout Center at 5341 Delaware Avenue to find out how to begin your son's Scouting experience. Come "Experience the Adventure" and see what we have to offer.

Seasonal safety tips ensure happy holidays

As Christmas nears, folks will be trimming their trees, lighting their lights, and roasting chestnuts over open fires. With these added activities comes additional responsibility, and safety should be tops on everyone's wish list. Following are just a few safety tips to make this a happy holiday season.

Trees

● If using a real tree, choose one that has fresh one. Fresh trees have needles which are hard to pull from the branch and do not snap when bent. The bottom of the trunk of a fresh tree will be sticky with resin.

● Keep trees away from fireplaces, radiator and other heat source. Heated rooms can dry out a tree quickly creating a fire hazard.

● Cut off two inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption. Keep the stand filled with fresh water.

● Place the tree out of the way of traffic and use thin guy wires to secure large trees to the wall or ceiling.

Lights

● Only use lights that have been tested for safety and have a label from an independent testing laboratory such as UL.

● Check each set of lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets.

● Connect no more than three strings of lights to an extension cord.

● Turn off all lights on trees and other decorations before going to bed or leaving the house. Lights could short and start a fire.

● Never use electric lights on a metal tree.

● The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights and anyone touching the tree could be electrocuted.

● Keep bubble lights away from children. The liquid inside contains a hazardous chemical.

Candles

● Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens

● Always use non-flammable holders

● Keep candles away from other decorations and wrapping paper

● Place candles where they cannot be knocked over

● Avoid wearing loose flowing clothes, particularly long, open sleeves near open flames, including candles and fireplaces.

Trimnings

● Avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food. A child could eat them.

● Use only non-combustible or flame retardant materials

● Wear gloves when using spun glass "angel hair" to avoid irritation to eyes and skin

Fires

● Before lighting any fire make sure all greens, boughs, papers and other decorations are away from the fireplace. Make sure the flue is open.

● Keep a screen in front of the fire place at all times when the fire is burning

● Do not burn wrapping paper in the fireplace. A flash fire could result.



Jennifer M. McCarthy

PERFECT PINE -- Kristina Kerr, 10 months, and her mother Katrina Kerr try out a Christmas tree at the Outdoor Rec Center. The Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Christmas Tree Sale runs through Dec. 23 and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Trees start for as low as \$20. For more info, call 562-6667.

National Public Radio to broadcast from Dix

National Public Radio (NPR) is hosting a live national broadcast from Timmermann Center Dec. 12, and the Fort Dix community is invited to attend.

The program will be hosted by Neal Conan of NPR's Talk of the Nation.

The first hour from 2 to 3 p.m. will be entitled "Shipping Out," and will address both the physical and psychological training required when getting ready to go to war. The audience will hear from people whose job it is to prepare Soldiers for combat, and those who work with families to prepare them for the special strains of deployment.

Attendees should arrive no later than 1:45 p.m.

"The Civilian Soldier: Future of the National Guard and Army Reserve" will run from 3 to 4 p.m. The long wars in Afghanistan and Iraq place unprecedented strains on the National Guard and Reserve, raising critical questions about the structure and design of the armed

forces, and about the lives of the men and women involved, including the issue of stop/loss, recruiting and retention, and the future of citizen Soldiers.

Those interested in attending this show should arrive no later than 2:45 p.m.

Guests scheduled to appear on the shows include Col. Douglas Dinon, Fort Dix deputy commander for mobilization, retired Maj. Gen. Mike Davidson, former assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for National Guard Matters, Brig. Gen. C. Stewart Rodeheaver, deputy commanding general, First Army, Fort Gillem, Ga., and Joan Cole, Fort Dix chief, Army Community Service.

A special performance by stand-up comedian and former Army supply specialist Tom Irwin will also be featured. Irwin has performed for front-line troops in Iraq and Afghanistan with the group "Comics On Duty."

For more information, send e-mail to talk@npr.org

Chaplains' Corner

Chap. (Col.) David Forden
chapel staff

My pastor used to tell a very enlightening story about Benjamin Franklin as a child. The story centers on a salt barrel. Now, as many of you may or may not know, in the days before ice boxes and refrigerators, people used to salt their meat, in order to preserve it.

As the story goes, Ben Franklin would watch his father pull the meat out of the old salt barrel and give it to his mother so she could prepare the meal. After she had cooked the dinner for the family, they would gather around the table and give thanks for their bounty just before they ate.

After watching this routine repeat itself day after day, young Ben asked his father if there might be another way to accomplish the same thing with less effort.

One must remember that this is the same Ben Franklin who wrote and published the "Poor Richard's Almanac." In it were handy quotes like, "A stitch in time saves nine," and "A penny saved is a penny earned."

Ben, who was always thinking, said to his father, "Wouldn't it be more efficient to gather the family around the salt barrel shortly after it had been filled with meat, and give thanks over the whole barrel all at once? This way everything in the barrel would be prayed for, and we wouldn't have to say our prayers each time before dinner. We could just eat."

It was at that point that Ben's father redirected the young man's thinking to the purpose of the prayer. The purpose of the prayer, his father explained, was to bring to their awareness just how fortunate they were to receive each meal that was

placed before them. His father told Ben that this awareness needed to be a regular reminder of their many blessings. Thus the prayer before each meal was not just a ritual that needed to be gotten out of the way, but an opportunity to be reminded of how blessed they were.

In our busy lives 250-plus years later, it is easy for us to live with a sense of entitlement; for there is so much that we take for granted. From time to time, we need to be reminded that "The pilgrims made seven times more graves than huts... nevertheless, (they) set aside a day of thanksgiving." (H. W. Westermeyer)

It has been said, "A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all the other virtues." (Cicero) It is my hope that each of us will use this season as an opportunity to give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received.

Soldiers receive rewards, recognition for service



photos by Ryan Morton

Lt. Col. Cynthia Palinski, Mobilization Readiness Battalion commander, above left, awards Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas A. D'Alessandro of the Mobilization Readiness Battalion with the Army Achievement Medal. D'Alessandro was presented with this award for his meritorious achievement for his work as the chief of the Arrival/Departure Airfield Control Group while deployed to MCAS Yuma. His efforts helped result in the successful mobilization of an Army Helicopter Battalion as part of a USMC Task Force.



Palinski awards the Army Good Conduct Medal to Sgt. 1st Class Barbara Robinson of the Mobilization Readiness Battalion, above. Robinson received the medal for her exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity in active federal military service. Also receiving the Army Good Conduct Medal was Staff Sgt. Iemima Lars.



Maj. David Dean of the Mobilization Readiness Battalion, above right, is presented with a Certificate of Achievement for his outstanding performance in the 2006 Tunnel to Towers Run. Also awarded were Cpl. Patrick Nichols, Sgt. Vikas Urtekar, Staff Sgt. Ginger Perry, Sgt. 1st Class Leonel Cruz, Master Sgt. Peniti Forsman and Master Sgt. Bernard Fuller.

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The Post!

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Mailing deadlines approaching

Military Mail Addressed to:	Express Mail® Military Service (EMMS) ^{1/}	First-Class Mail® Letters/Cards	Priority Mail®	Parcel Airmail (PAL) ^{2/}	Space Available Mail (SAM) ^{3/}	Parcel Post®
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	Dec 4	Dec 4	Dec 2	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AA ZIPs 340	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13

^{1/} EMMS: Express Mail Military Service is available to selected military post offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to your APO/FPO of address.

^{2/} PAL: PAL is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface rate of postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

^{3/} SAM: Parcels paid at Parcel Post postage rates are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis. The maximum weight and size limits are 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined.

International Mail Addressed to:	Global Express Guaranteed® (GXG) ^{4/}	Global Express Mail® (GEM) ^{5/}	Global Priority Mail® (GPM) ^{6/}	Global Airmail® Letters and Cards	Global Airmail Parcel Post®	Global Economy® (Surface)
Africa	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 6	Dec 4	Dec 4	Oct 16
Asia / Pacific Rim	Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 13	Dec 11	Dec 11	Oct 30
Australia / New Zealand	Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 13	Dec 11	Dec 11	Oct 30
Canada	Dec 20	Dec 16	Dec 13	Dec 11	Dec 11	Nov 27
Caribbean	Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 13	Dec 11	Dec 11	Nov 6
Central & South America	Dec 19	Dec 11	Dec 4	Dec 4	Dec 4	Oct 30
Mexico	Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 13	Dec 11	Dec 11	Nov 20
Europe	Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 13	Dec 11	Dec 11	Nov 6
Middle East	Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 13	Dec 11	Dec 11	Oct 23

^{4/} GXG: Global Express Guaranteed is available to over 190 countries via a partnership with Federal Express. See retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries and money-back guarantee details. Some restrictions apply.

^{5/} GEM: Global Express Mail is available to over 190 countries with delivery in 3-5 business days. See a retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries. Some restrictions apply.

^{6/} GPM: Global Priority Mail is an accelerated airmail service available for items up to 4 pounds to 51 countries. The service is available in two attractive-sized envelopes. Customers can also use their own packaging by adding the Global Priority Mail sticker. See a retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries. Some restrictions apply.

AFAP delegates review issues

Margaret McKenzie
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Nov. 29, 2006 - Delegates at the 24th Army Family Action Plan conference reviewed 68 issues from Army installations throughout the world Nov. 14-17.

The issues were distributed into eight workgroup categories: wounded warrior, entitlements, family support (of which there were two groups), force-support, medical (of which there were two groups) and outside-of-the-continental-United States.

The top five conference issues of 2006, as voted by the delegates, were:

- Traumatic brain injury rehabilitation program at military medical centers,

- Traumatic servicemember's group life insurance annual supplement.

- Co-Pay for replacement parts of durable medical equipment and prosthetics.

- Convicted sex offender registry outside the continental U.S., and

- Retroactive traumatic servicemembers group life insurance compensation.

The top five critical active issues previously introduced into the AFAP process include:

- Award contracts for household-goods shipments to moving companies based on performance and claims history, as well as cost. Provide full replacement value for lost/damaged household goods;

- Allow Soldiers with at least ten years of service to transfer their Montgomery GI Bill benefits to their dependents;

- Authorize the use of permissive temporary duty for fathers upon birth of a child;

- Eliminate the expiration date for Montgomery GI Bill educational benefits; and

- Allow servicemembers to accumulate 90 days of leave until termination of service.

The four services identified by delegates as this year's most valuable are Army Community Service; Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Army Wounded Warrior Program; and medical care.

Additionally, the delegates voted on the top five mobiliza-

tion/deployment and family-support strengths. Included on the list were Military OneSource and Army Community Service programs. Morale Welfare and Recreation, family readiness groups and rest and relaxation all tied for third place, and the rapid fielding initiative rounded out the list.

The top three mobilization/deployment and family challenges as determined by the delegates were length and extension of deployments; deployment personnel tempo; and the stop-loss program. The need for more standard National Guard, Active Guard and Reserve, Army Reserve, and active-duty remote family readiness groups, and incomplete family reintegration training for children and teens were tied for fourth place.

For the past 24 years there have been 618 issues in the Army Family Action Plan process that have driven 101 legislative changes, 145 Department of Defense Army policy and regulatory changes, and improved programs and services.

A meeting of the General Officer Steering Committee, chaired by the Lt. Gen. James Lovelace, was held in conjunction with the AFAP conference. Senior Department of Defense and Army leaders reviewed 24 issues in the AFAP process. Two were completed:

- Dental and Vision Insurance Coverage for Federal Employees: Public Law U.S.108-496 authorizes a stand-alone dental and vision benefit program for federal employees.

- Employees will pay 100 percent of the premium costs for dental and vision coverage. The Office of Personnel Management has implemented seven supplemental dental plans and three vision benefit plans for federal employees, retirees and their dependents. Open season began Nov. 13 and will run through Dec. 11.

- Basic allowance for housing for activated Reserve component: The fiscal 2006 National Defense Authorization Act

authorized full BAH for Reserve-component Soldiers on active duty after 30 days of service regardless of the type of orders or reason used to bring the Soldiers to active duty.

Of the issues that were presented, 22 were listed as active and will be worked until resolution. The GOSC approved the entry of two new issues into the AFAP - Army Career and Alumni Program funding and permanent family readiness support assistants.

AFAP was created in 1983 with the initial AFAP planning conference, and developed fully in 1984 to help the Army address the needs and concerns of family members. The program highlighted the importance of Army families to overall Army success.

The concept of identifying issues to be resolved through worldwide representation of Army family members grew into the AFAP process. It provides a way for policy to become a tangible end-product for Soldiers and their families.

The Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation Command oversees the AFAP process to ensure that issues are referred to the appropriate agencies for resolution. Semi-annual GOSC meetings monitor the progress of each issue until it is resolved or deemed unattainable.

"The issues that we will review this morning, we are going to delve into in great detail because we owe that to you," said Lt. Gen. James Campbell, in his opening remarks.

"You have taken a step out of your lives and come from distant stations to be here this week and to make your contributions felt," he continued.

For the past 24 years there have been 618 issues in the AFAP process that have driven 101 legislative changes, 145 Department of Defense Army policy and regulatory changes, and improved programs and services.

"It is very important that those who have never experienced this understand what happens here today," Campbell said, "and see how our United States Army stands up and listen to the concerns of those we serve."

Announcements



**Movie
Schedule**
at the McGuire AFB Theatre
Movie Hotline 754-5139

Friday, Dec. 1 @ 7:30 p.m.
Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning - Jordana Brewster, Taylor Handley - Chrissie and her friends set out on a road trip for a final fling before one is shipped off to Vietnam. Along the way, bikers harass the foursome and cause an accident that throws Chrissie from the vehicle. The lawman who arrives on the scene kills one of the bikers and brings Chrissie's friends to the Hewitt homestead, where young Leatherface is learning the tools of terror. Prequel to the series.
MPAA Rating: R, Run Time: 91 minutes.

Saturday, Dec. 2 @ 7:30 p.m.
The Prestige - Hugh Jackman, Christian Bale - From the time that they first met as young magicians on the rise, Robert Angier and Alfred Borden were competitors. However, their friendly competition evolves into a bitter rivalry making them fierce enemies-for-life and consequently jeopardizing the lives of everyone around them. Full of twists and turns, *The Prestige* is set against the backdrop of turn-of-the-century London.
MPAA Rating: PG-13, Run Time: 130 minutes.

Future Features...

Saw III
Friday, December 8 @ 7:30 p.m.
R, 107 min.

Flags of Our Fathers
Saturday, December 9 @ 7:30 p.m.
R, 132 min.

MATINEE...

The Santa Claus 3: The Escape Clause
Saturday, December 9 @ 3:00 p.m.
G, 98 min.

Main Chapel

562-5791/562-2020

Sunday services

Protestant at 9 a.m.
Catholic Mass: 10:15 a.m. Gospel at 11:30 a.m.
Catholic CCDs held at 9:15 a.m.
Protestant-Gospel Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Religious Services

Islamic Prayer Services held at noon, Monday through Thursday Room 24
Adult Bible Study Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Catholic Adult Bible Study Sundays at 11:30 a.m.
Christian Women of the Chapel hold Bible Study Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon
Jewish Services Shabbat held every first and third evening at 6 p.m. followed by KIDDUSH Fellowship at 6:30 p.m.

Chapel 5 (Bldg. 5950)

562-4847
Memorial Prayer Service for Our Soldiers 5:45 p.m. each Sunday
Computer Room: Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - noon / 2-4 p.m. and 5-8 p.m.
Infant Baptism and Lutheran Confirmation Instruction by appointment

Organizations

Wiccan Study Group meets
The Wiccan Study Group will meet the first, third and fourth Tuesday of every month at the McGuire Chapel 2 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sabbat meetings will be held accordingly. For more information call 758-4681.

Qualified teachers needed

Experienced, qualified teachers are needed to teach youth classes in ballet/dance, tumbling/kinder gym and Spanish. For more information call Ft. Dix Child and Youth Services at 562-2242.

Thrift Shop offers free piano

The Fort Dix Thrift Shop is giving away for free a slightly damaged piano and two non-functioning electric organs. For more information call the Thrift Shop at 723-2683. The Thrift Shop also has a great line of new tile coasters, magnets, greeting cards, and jewelry that are perfect

Family Advocacy

562-5200

Chaplain

562-5721/2020

American Red Cross

562-2258

Army Emergency Relief

562-2767

**NCO Call
at Club Dix
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.**

24-hour Hotlines

Sexual Assault.....562-3849
Victim Advocacy.....694-8724
Child/Spouse Abuse.....562-6001
Emergencies.....911

Or, visit the Fort Dix Department of Defense Police Department in Bldg. 6049 on 8th Street.

Army Community Service
Bldg. 5201
562-2767

Hours of Operation:
7:45 - 4:30 p.m.

December Schedule

Choosing Toys and Playthings for Children
7 December
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Child Development Center

Holiday Stress
8 December
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
ACS.

Dealing with Holiday Debt
11 December
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
ACS.

Manners and Etiquette: Realistic Guidelines
14 December
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
ACS.

The Season of Excess: Maintaining Balance
15 December
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
ACS.

International Spouse Group
15 December
11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
ACS.

Volunteer Advisory Council
20 December
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
ACS.

Avoiding Holiday Meltdowns
21 December
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
ACS.

Love Shouldn't Hurt
21 December
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 a.m.
ACS.

For more information call
Deraurah Wilson at 562-4830

Youth Center

Bldg. 1279 Locust Street
562-5061

Hours of Operation:
Tuesday - Friday 2 to 7 p.m.
Saturday 1 to 7 p.m.
Sunday & Monday CLOSED

Administrative Hours:
Tuesday - Friday noon to 6 p.m.

December Schedule

Midnight Basketball
Dec. 2
7 p.m. - midnight

Middle School trip to Bucks County Theater - Babes in Toyland
Dec. 9
9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Mondays - Fridays
Power Hour
2 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesdays
SMART Start
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Wednesdays
Sports and Fitness
3:35 - 4:45 p.m.

Thursdays
Tech Club
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Fridays
Arts and Crafts
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Note: The Teen Center is open Fridays and Saturdays from 7 to 11 p.m. except during the Youth Center's Midnight Basketball nights.

MOBILIZATION NEWS YOU CAN USE

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WDIX
Commander's
Channel 2

Post Shuttle Bus

562-5888
Monday to Sunday - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
During the day *Starry Tour* buses are used.
In evening the military *Bluebird* buses are run.

Dix Shoppette/Class Six/ Gas Station

723-0044
Bldg. 5359, Texas Ave.
Monday to Friday - 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Weekends - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

BX/PX & Mail

723-6100
Monday to Thursday - 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday and Saturday - 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Commissary

754-4154
Monday to Friday - 7 a.m. (early bird) to 8 p.m.
Saturday - 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday - 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Military Clothing/Sales Store Alterations

723-2307
Bldg. 5601, Texas Ave.
Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sunday - Closed.

Club Dix

723-3272
Tuesday to Friday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Revolutions Lounge
Opens 4:30 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday
Karaoke every Thursday at 8 p.m.

Recreation Center

562-4956
Bldg. 5905 on Doughboy Loop.
Monday through Friday - 1 to 10 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday - noon to 11 p.m.
AT&T Cyber Zone offers computer access for a fee

Dining Facilities

Bldgs. 5640 and 5986
Breakfast Mon - Sun 5:30 to 7:30 a.m.
Lunch Mon - Sun 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
Dinner Mon - Sun 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Bldg. 5517
Breakfast Mon - Sun 6:30 to 8:00 a.m.
Lunch Mon - Sun 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Dinner Mon - Sun 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation

562-6667
Bldg. 6045 Doughboy Loop
Equipment for rent includes skis, snowboards, canoes, flat bottom boats, canopies of various sizes, tents, tables, chairs and more.
Monday to Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 4 p.m.

Java Cafe and Computer Lab @ Club Dix

723-3272
Monday - Tuesday - 7 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday - Friday - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Saturday - 7 a.m. to noon 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Sunday - noon - 10 p.m.

McGuire Gas Station

723-4705
East Arnold Avenue by the 24-hour gate
Monday to Friday - 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Firestone

723-0464
Bldg. 4201 on Texas Ave.
Monday through Friday - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

McGuire Shoppette

723-4705
East Arnold Avenue by the 24-hour gate
Monday to Thursday - 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday - 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday - 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Sunday - 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Burger King

723-8937
Bldg. 5399, Texas Ave.
Monday to Saturday 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Spouses' Club Thrift Shop

723-2683
Tuesday and Thursdays - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
First Wednesday of each month - 4 to 8 p.m.
First and 3rd Saturday of each month - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fort Dix Post Office

723-1541
6038 West 9th St.
Monday to Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to noon



RDPW's quintessential pro retires after 40 years

Steve Snyder
Public Affairs Staff

He's damn near done it all on Fort Dix; completing basic training during the Vietnam War era here, serving three years with the active Army on post, following up with 17 years in the 78th Division in the Army Reserve along with 36 years as a civilian employee toiling in the proverbial vineyards of Team Dix.

It's been a long haul for Norman Cowell, chief of Job Order Contracting (JOC) for RDPW. He retires in January and is considering moving to east Tennessee where it's quiet and golf courses abound. Cowell also says he plans to go into the computer data recovery business with his son-in-law.

Sounds like anything but restless but Cowell is used to life in the fast lane.

"Norm Cowell is a hard-working, conscientious employee who was always focused on doing what was best for Fort Dix," confides Marvin Kastberg, director of the Army Reserve Contracting Center.

In Kastberg's estimation, "He is an outstanding manager



Steve Snyder



photo courtesy of Norm Cowell



photo courtesy of Norm Cowell

CHANGES -- Norman F. Cowell, boss of Job Order Contracting (JOC) for Fort Dix's Regional Directorate of Public Works, left, as he looks today. In the middle, Sgt. 1st Class Cowell is awarded an Army Commendation Medal in the early 1980s by Col. Cooney, left, commander of the 78th Division's Maneuver Training Command as he shakes hands with Lt. Col. Dupier. Cowell served with the 78th Division in the Army Reserve from April 1974 until June 1991, advancing from the rank of a staff sergeant to chief warrant officer 3. At right, above, 20-year-old Private Cowell appears contented after completing basic training at Fort Dix in the summer of 1967.

together to insure that all construction projects covered the IT requirements upfront in the planning process. Norm was the key to this integration effort to the benefit of the post and customers," Eckstein explains.

Richard Eckstein, the director of Information Management here, has similar words of praise.

"Norm Cowell and the DOIM planners have worked

together to insure that all construction projects covered the IT requirements upfront in the planning process. Norm was the key to this integration effort to the benefit of the post and customers," Eckstein explains.

Fort Dix's man of many tasks

was born in Syracuse, N.Y., on Oct. 23, 1946 but spent all of his formative school years in Cincinnati, following his father who was a salesman for an electrical manufacturer.

Norm was a baseball nut as a kid and a pretty fair pitcher himself up through his teen years before graduating from high school and completing two years as a marketing major at Miami University of Ohio at Oxford. He met his bride-to-be, Carol, there before getting married in 1968.

But military service came first.

Draft on his back

Cowell recalls the selective service draft was on his back so he enlisted in the Army in July 1967, beginning basic training at Fort Dix. Wanting to be a fixed wing aircraft mechanic, Norm was sidetracked, completing an advanced infantry course after basic in hopes of attending OCS. But Army officials suddenly discovered, then, that Norm didn't have a college degree and so was ineligible for Officer Candidate School. Instead, he would up working as a processing clerk serving the Army's convenience at Fort Rucker, Ala.

While serving on temporary duty at West Point, Cowell got orders for Vietnam. He arrived in Long Binh on Thanksgiving Day 1968 and left Vietnam on the same day exactly a year later. Norm served as a classified files clerk for the Surgeon General's office there and says that although his base was frequently rocketed by the enemy he never saw any direct action although his unit was prepared to defend their space during the small TET offensive that occurred in 1969.

"I thank God I wasn't out in the woods or boonies," Norm says now, reflecting on his year in the war zone. He did get a chance for some R&R in Hawaii and says that was well worth checking out.

Cowell came back to the states in early December 1969, arriving at Fort Dix to serve as NCOIC for the AG reproduction center which was then located in a basement office at MacDonald Hall. Norm's shop ran offset presses, contained two civilian employees and three or four GIs.

Cowell then left the service,

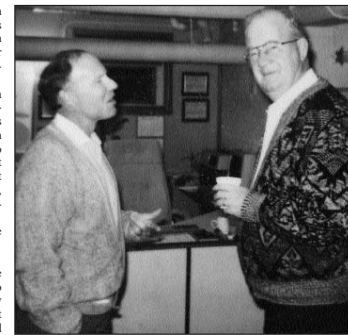


photo courtesy of Norm Cowell

SHOOTING THE BREEZE -- Norm Cowell bends the ear of Al Snyder, right, Fort Dix DPW director, about something or another in the late 1980s.

having reached the rank of staff sergeant after three years. He became among the first to find civil service employment here under the aegis of the Veterans Readjustment Act (VRA). He got his first apprenticeship here under that program in August 1970, working at the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Shop at Dix for \$4.20 an hour until November 1972. While he was working during days at Fort Dix, the ambitious young vet knocked off certification in air conditioning and refrigeration by completing courses at Burlington County Vocational Tech in Mt. Holly nights.

Education pays off

His hard work and education paid off in April 1981 when he took over the job of making the maintenance schedule for all RDPW shops on post. In March 1986 he was promoted again, this time to planning estimator. And in November 1988 Cowell assumed his current position as supervision planning estimator.

No longer self-contained on post with many technical shops operating, Norm started to write small contracts for everything running under \$10,000.

Last year, for example, his office executed about 120 contracts worth \$21 million, supporting Fort Dix and other Army

Reserve locales as far away as Utah and Colorado.

Cowell says his office is slated to do a lot of work for the 99th Regional Reserve Support Command (RRSC).

Gruelling process

The process for executing contracting missions involves putting in a request for work involved, fighting to get funding for the work, finding a contractor to do the work and egging on the contractor to meet deadlines involved therein.

Norm's office has been involved in contracting out for much work around post including renovations on the dining facilities, improvements to the Timmerman Theater parking lot, numerous roof repairs, partitions, etc.

The rule of thumb is that you don't spend more than 50 percent of what the repaired building or facility was originally worth. If you have to spend more than Uncle Sam would rather rebuild than throw good money after bad.

Cowell says he still gets satisfaction from his job because he can see concrete improvements helping people in their daily lives here.

And Fort Dix's consummate professional wouldn't have it any other way.



photo courtesy of Norm Cowell

THAT OLD GANG OF MINE -- Members of Fort Dix's Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Shop stand tall in front of the Directorate for Public Works building in the late 1970s with their boss, Norm Cowell, front in the middle.

Divorced service members offered financial security

Capt Nick Mitchell
Office of the SJA

It seems that at least once (or more) a week, I hear something similar to one of the following:

"Somebody told me that if I get a divorce, there is a law that says my spouse will automatically get half of my military retirement."

"I was told that because I have been married more than 10 years, my spouse will, by some law, get some of my military retirement."

"It's a good thing that I have not been married more than 10 years so that my spouse cannot get any of my military retirement."

There is a little truth in the previous three statements, but for the most part they are wrong — wrong — wrong.

USFSPA stands for the Uniformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act. This Act became a federal law in 1982 and has been amended several times over the years.

USFSPA simply allows state courts, if they so chose, to consider military retirement pay as community (or call it marital) property during a divorce proceeding. USFSPA does not create a federal/military right of a former spouse to automatically get any part or percentage of a service member's retirement. USFSPA does not entitle a divorced spouse to automatically get a share of a military pension based on the length of a marriage.

So what effect does USFSPA have, if any, on a divorced military member's retired military pay?

HERE COMES THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH!

If a state court, in a divorce action, awards part of a military retirement pay to a divorced spouse, and the divorced spouse had been married to the military member for 10 or more years that were creditable for such retired pay, then the divorced spouse can apply for a direct payment (up to and no more than 50 percent of the retired military pay) from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS).

How can you apply for a direct payment? You can start the process by contacting the Fort Dix Retirement Services Office at 562-2666. An application form (DD Form 2213) will be completed and a court order (separation agreement, etc.) is needed that shows it has been certified by the applicable clerk of court within 90 days of sending both the DD Form 2213 and certified court order to DFAS.

When DFAS receives both documents, it will begin to make payments to the divorced spouse no later than 90 days thereafter. If the divorced spouse submits the DFAS paperwork before the military member has actually retired, then payments to the divorced spouse will begin no later than 90 days after the date the military member becomes entitled to receive his or her retired pay.

NCO Call

at Club Dix

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.



Carolee Nisbet

Soldiers of Bravo Company, 3-194th Infantry Battalion, Minnesota National Guard, above, gather for the unit's Yellow Banner Ceremony in Infantry Park Nov. 25 before deploying to Iraq. Pictured, from left, are 1st Sgt. Hector Matascasillo, Capt. John Wisniewski, commander, and Spc. Gordon Bierschank, guidon bearer.

Soldiers have yellow banner day



Command Sgt. Maj. Steve Vogt and Lt. Col. Gregory Hudfield of the 141st Military Intelligence Battalion, Utah Army National Guard, left, hang their unit's Yellow Banner in Infantry Park Nov. 28. The banner will hang in Infantry Park until the 141st returns, when it will be presented to them to be included in the unit heritage.

Ed Mingin

Soldiers of the 245th Engineers, Oklahoma National Guard, above, gather for the unit's Yellow Banner Ceremony in Infantry Park Nov. 26 before deploying to Iraq. Pictured, from left, are 1st Sgt. Lorn McKinzie, Capt. Cory Newcomb, commander, and Spc. Jason Allen, guidon bearer.

WDIX Channel 2

24/7 information



ARTS & CRAFTS

Bldg. 6039
Philadelphia Street
562-5691

Registration & sales store hours:

Tuesday-Thursday
noon-5 p.m. & 6-8:45 p.m.
Friday
11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Saturday
9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

PROGRAMS

Digital Photography Contest

Entries for the Army Photography Contest are due at Arts & Crafts on Dec. 17. This year's contest will be judged from photo CD's. Information, contest rules, and entry forms are on the Web at armymwr.com.

Santa's Elves Night

Dec. 9 from 5 - 10 p.m.
Come enjoy a night with your friends and family to finish up your holiday projects and gifts and receive 20-percent off your purchases. Also enjoy tasty cookies and hot chocolate. You'll love the late night from 5 to 10 p.m.

Adult Craft Classes

Tuesdays, 6 - 8:30 p.m.
Dec. 5.....Gingerbread Platter
Dec. 7.....Snowman Mug and Plate
Dec. 12.....Boxes, Bows and Bags
\$5 fee plus materials

Krafty Birthdays

Arts & Crafts offers Krafty Birthday Parties! Parties include up to 2 hours of party room use, one craft project with instruction and all materials, plus a digitally mastered photo T-shirt for the birthday child! Call or stop by today for details! When making party reservations, please make sure to stop by in order to choose the craft and make payment.

Create A Critter

Discover a menagerie of adorable animals to stuff, dress, and cuddle. From the basic teddy bear to giraffes and lions, we've got them all! Great fun for the whole family.

Quilts For Kids

Dec. 9 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Volunteers needed to make quilts for kids in long term healthcare, hospice and safe houses. No experience needed. All you need to bring is your desire to help others while you learn to sew and machine quilt. All levels of experience welcome. There is no fee to join.

Kids Craft Classes

Saturdays, 2:30 - 4 p.m.
Dec. 2.....Holiday Stocking
\$5 fee plus materials
Pre-registration required

Framing Qualification Classes

Dec. 2 from 9 - 11:30 a.m.
Dec. 6 from 6 - 8:30 p.m.
Get qualified to use this great facility and equipment! You'll complete one piece (cost of which is not covered by registration fee) about 8 x 10" which you must supply as you learn to operate the equipment. All materials are available for purchase at the frame shop.
\$10 registration fee
pre-registration required

Contemporary Ceramic and Mosaic Studio

Tues. to Thurs., noon to 3 p.m. & 6 - 9 p.m.
Friday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Looking for a place to walk in, relax and get creative? This is the place for you and your family to paint functional or decorative items to give as gifts or keep for yourself.

We have many bisque ware items to choose, from plates to piggy banks, lots of project ideas, and a helpful staff to get you started. You do the painting and we'll complete your masterpiece with a food-safe glaze and expert firing.

Honoring the Colors

Reveille 6 a.m. (0600 hours)

Stand at attention,
face the flag and
salute at first note.

Military personnel in uniform

Military personnel not in uniform, civilians

Stand at attention,
face the flag and
place right hand over heart
at first note.

Military personnel in formation or in a group

Senior Soldier calls
group to "Attention,"
then "Present, Arms"
at first note. Calls
"Order, Arms" at
conclusion.

Individual military personnel, civilians in a vehicle

Stop vehicle and exit.
Follow steps above.

Group of military personnel in a vehicle

Stop vehicle. Individual
in charge exits and follows
steps above.

Retreat 5 p.m. (1700 hours)

Stand at attention,
face the flag for
Retreat, then
salute at first note
of To the Colors.

Stand at attention,
face the flag for
Retreat, then place
right hand over heart
at first note of
To the Colors.

Senior Soldier calls
group to "Attention,"
then "Parade, Rest"
at first note of
Retreat. Calls
group to "Attention"
and "Present, Arms"
at first note of To the
Colors, then "Order,
Arms" at conclusion.

Stop vehicle and exit.
Follow steps above.

Stop vehicle. Individual
in charge exits and
follows steps above.

Other bugle calls heard on post are:

Tattoo.....9 p.m. (2100 hours)
Call to Quarters.....9:30 p.m. (2130 hours)
Taps.....10 p.m. (2200 hours)

Relationship Safety

Everyone has the right to feel safe in his or her relationships.
Are you or do you know anyone in an abusive relationship?

Look for these signs:

- threats or intimidation
- isolation from family and friends
- denying access to money
- sexual abuse
- involving or using children in adult conflicts
- destroying personal possessions
- feeling fearful
- painful put-downs
- use of weapons

Important phone numbers:

Providence House hotline
871-7551
NJ Domestic Violence hotline
800-572-SAFE
Fort Dix Victim Advocate
562-2767
McGuire Victim Advocate
754-9672

For emergency assistance call 911



Army Community Service (ACS)*

562-2767

Bldg. 5201, on the corner of 8th Street and Maryland Avenue

Hours of Operation:

Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Looking for information and assistance? ACS is here to serve you. ACS serves all military branches of service, DoD civilian personnel and retirees. The ACS Center is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

*A Department of the Army Accredited Soldier and Family Service Organization



Griffith hosts basketball tournament



Basketball action is heating up at the Griffith Field House, with the preseason tournament. Four teams are still undefeated in the double-elimination competition but all that will change Dec. 5, when the battle of the undefeated teams will take place.

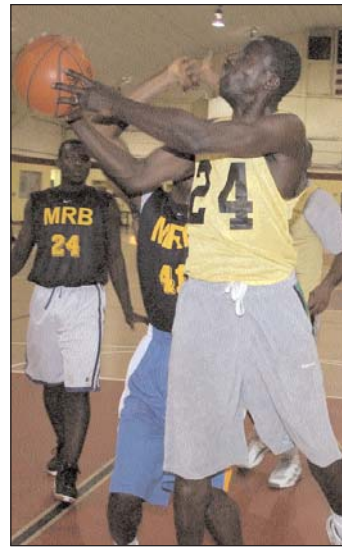
The Wildcats and Ball-Up will meet that night, as will FCI and MRB. These teams are always near the top of the heap in competition, and there is sure

to be some close competition when they meet.

The winners will move on to face each other Dec. 7, while the losers will have to battle back, hoping to get a shot to make it to the final round Dec. 13.

Results as of 11/29

MRB over Showtime	56-36
Wildcats over EOD	79-35
Ball-Up over Warriors	59-27
MRB over NCOA	62-36
FCI over Main Event	61-51
Showtime over EOD	48-47



photos by Ed Mingin

FAST AND FURIOUS -- Four teams remain unbeaten in the preseason tournament at the Griffith Field House. Frank Ocansey, above left, Al Richards, above center, and Larry Huff, lower right, have MRB on track as they beat Showtime and NCOA. Darron Garner, left, drives around a defender, but EOD lost to the Wildcats. Edwin Pounal, top right, and Showtime are trying to fight their way back after losing to MRB. Showtime later beat EOD and are still alive in competition. Referees Jose Cortes and Hank Schavone were on hand to officiate the action.

Sports Shorts

Griffith Field House

Saturday & Sunday

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday - Friday

6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The Griffith Field House will be closed

December 7, 8, 9.

Doughboy Gym

Newport Ave.

Monday - Friday

5 to 9 p.m.

Closed weekends

Youth Sports Basketball

Fort Dix Child & Youth Services will be offering basketball for youths up to 15 years of age. No players on high school teams accepted.

Registration is from Oct. 16 - Dec. 1.

All children must be registered with Fort Dix Child & Youth Services to participate.

A registration fee of \$18 per child or \$40 for three or more children will be charged for anyone not already registered for CYS, in addition to the specified activity/sports fees.

Parents must show proof of sports physical for the current year.

Mandatory basketball certification for coaches is scheduled for Dec. 3, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Fort Dix Youth Sports programs focus on skill development and fun through positive mentoring and sportsmanship. Come experience and participate in the Fort Dix Youth Basketball Program.

For more information, call the Youth Sports Office at 562-5519.

Intramural Basketball

The Griffith Field House will be holding their annual Intramural Basketball League.

For more information about participating, call Chris O'Donnell at 562-4888.

Outdoor Rec.

For more information about Outdoor Rec activities, call them at 562-2727.

You can also visit their website at www.dixmwr.com.

Nov. 17

Jersey Devil Hunt

Fees: \$20 adult \$15 child

Dec. 2

Ice Skating

Fees: \$20 adult \$15 child

Dec. 9

Lost River Caverns

Fees: \$30 adult \$25 child

Aquatics

Winter hours are now in place for the indoor pool.

Lap Swim

Mon. - Fri.

Retirees/adult dependents/working DOD

6 a.m. - 8 a.m.

10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Active duty/working DOD

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sat.

Retirees/adult dependents/working DOD

10:30 a.m. - noon

Rec. Swim

Mon. - Fri.

1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sat.

Noon - 6 p.m.

Fees for Rec. Swim: Military- \$2 Non-military-\$4

Hydro Aerobics

Mon. and Wed.

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sat.



photos by Ed Mingin

Turkey Trot

A large crowd showed up to participate in this year's Turkey Trot. Maj. Jesse Arnstein, of the Air National Guard was the top male runner, finishing in 18:12. Lt. Amy Meador was the first female across the line, with a time of 23:30.